

Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 IO-14 ISO-00 RSC-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00

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TO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 218670

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, MARR, CY

SUBJ: FUTURE OF UNFICYP

REF: NICOSIA 2237, 2248; USUN 4459

1. DEPARTMENT APPRECIATES PROMPT REPLIES TO STATE 216085
ON BASIS OF WHICH USUN IS AUTHORIZED TO APPROACH UNSYG ON
FUTURE OF UNFICYP. WE BELIEVE WOULD BE MOST FRUITFUL FOR
YOU TO MAKE REPRESENTATIONS TO WALDHEIM FOLLOWED BY SUP-
PORTING REPRESENTATIONS AT LEVELS YOU DEEM MOST APPROPRIATE.
PLEASE CONVEY FOLLOWING USG VIEWS RE UNFICYP TROOP
REDUCTION:

A. REDUCTION AND RESTRUCTURING OF UNFICYP IS NECES-
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SARY STEP WHICH WILL ELIMINATE UNFICYP'S RECURRING

DEFICITS, BRING ITS STRUCTURE INTO ACCORD WITH THE REALITIES OF ITS EVOLVING OBSERVER-MEDIATOR ROLE, AND ENABLE IT TO CARRY OUT ITS MANDATE MORE EFFICIENTLY.

B. EMERGENCY DRAWDOWN OF UNFICYP FOLLOWING TROOP TRANSFERS TO UNEF PRESENTS EXCELLENT AND UNIQUE OPPORTUNITY TO EFFECT PERSONNEL AND COST REDUCTIONS AND TO TAKE INITIAL STEPS TOWARD RESTRUCTURING FORCE.

C. SITUATION ON CYPRUS HAS BEEN STABLE FOR SIX YEARS. THIS STABILITY IS REFLECTION OF HIGH DEGREE OF SELF-RESTRAINT SHOWN BY ALL PARTIES CONCERNED AND OF THEIR WILLINGNESS TO CREATE MECHANISMS AND PROCEDURES TO AVOID HOSTILITIES.

D. SINCE PRESENT QUIET SITUATION ON CYPRUS SEEMS LIKELY TO CONTINUE AND SINCE THERE IS NO SIGN THAT INTER-COMMUNAL TALKS WILL REACH SUCCESSFUL EARLY CONCLUSION, IT IS IMPERATIVE THAT UNFICYP BE PUT ON A SOUND AND SUSTAINABLE FINANCIAL FOOTING FOR THE LONGER HAUL AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

E. UNFICYP SHOULD PRESERVE ITS MULTI-NATIONAL CHARACTER WITH THE COUNTRIES CURRENTLY SUPPLYING FORCES MAINTAINING SOME LEVEL OF REPRESENTATION.

2. ON BASIS OF ABOVE, USG FEELS STRONGLY THAT SYG SHOULD NOT REPLACE TROOPS WHICH HAVE LEFT UNFICYP FOR UNEF ON A ONE-FOR-ONE BASIS. APART FROM FACT THAT SUCH REPLACEMENT WOULD PLACE STRAIN ON TROOP CONTRIBUTING COUNTRIES, CYPRUS SITUATION SIMPLY DOES NOT WARRANT IT. ACCORDINGLY, WE BELIEVE THAT MORE EFFECTIVE PROCEDURE WOULD BE TO ENCOURAGE COUNTRIES WHOSE TROOPS WERE WITHDRAWN FROM UNFICYP FOR UNEF TO MAINTAIN THEIR PRESENCE BY REPLACING TRANSFERRED TROOPS WITH SMALL, OFFICER LEVEL OBSERVER TEAMS WHICH CAN STRENGTHEN UNFICYP IN ITS OBSERVER-MEDIATOR ROLE.

3. WALDHEIM AND OTHER UN OFFICIALS MAY RAISE POINT THAT ASSURANCES FROM INVOLVED PARTIES SHOULD BE PREREQUISITE
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FOR TROOP REDUCTIONS. IF SUCH ASSERTION IS MADE, YOU MAY WISH TO EMPHASIZE THAT SIX-YEAR RECORD OF RELATIVE STABILITY AND COOPERATION ON CYPRUS, COUPLED WITH IMPERATIVE NEED FOR COST REDUCTION, ARGUE AGAINST REQUIREMENT THAT SPECIFIC ASSURANCES ARE PREREQUISITE TO TROOP REDUCTION. IF, IN FACT, TRULY MEANINGFUL ASSURANCES COULD BE PROVIDED, THERE WOULD BE NO NEED FOR UNFICYP PRESENCE.

4. DEPARTMENT AGREES WITH USUN THAT THE MOST EFFECTIVE
PROCEDURE WOULD BE DEMARCHE MADE IN CONCERT WITH THE
BRITISH. HOWEVER, CONTACTS EITHER HERE OR IN LONDON
WOULD INVOLVE DELAYS AND PROBABLY ELICIT MOD'S USUAL
UNENTHUSIASTIC RESPONSE TO ANYTHING DECREASING NUMBER OF
UN TROOPS "SCREENING" BRITISH BASES AND INCREASING RES-
PONSIBILITIES OF BRITISH TROOPS WITHIN UNFICYP. THERE-
FORE, WE HOPE YOU CAN COORDINATE APPROACHES WITH BRITISH
IN NEW YORK. RUSH

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